

0002



September 14, 2007

Mr. Steve Heminger
Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
101-8th Street
Oakland, CA 94607

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CAPITOL CORRIDOR
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
300 LAKESIDE DRIVE
14TH FLOOR EAST
OAKLAND, CA 94612
(V) 510.464.6995
(F) 510.464.6901
www.capitolcorridor.org

SUBJECT: MTC Regional Rail Plan

Dear Mr. Heminger:

The Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority (CCJPA) is proud to be a participant in MTC's *Regional Rail Plan*. It was a pleasure to be a member of the project team, which included all the rail agencies in the Bay Area. The participation of these many rail agencies was a great feat coordinated by MTC and represented the depth and thought that went into the development of the Plan.

The Plan presents a bold vision for the rail transportation network in the Bay Area for both freight and passenger services. As current and future operators of rail services in the Bay Area, we all know that the services that exist today cannot move forward independently. The Plan attempts to integrate the rail services into a future rail network that would rely on the development of intermodal facilities that will bring the different types of rail services (commuter, intercity, and high-speed rail) together at strategic locations in the Bay Area.

The CCJPA especially appreciates the work done by MTC and its consultant team in the development and integration of the Capitol Corridor into the Plan. Specifically, the CCJPA is pleased with the Plan's forecast for the Capitol Corridor, which aligns with the CCJPA's *Vision Plan* (April 2005). Some highlights include improved frequencies, maximum utilization of the route and resources, comprehensive market penetration (both business and leisure travelers), and a cooperative operating service plan with freight trains.

The CCJPA supports in principle the concept of the two high-speed rail alignments into and out of the Bay Area. Each alignment would provide a means to meet the high-speed rail travel markets for (1) long distance travelers from Los Angeles/Southern California using the Pacheco Pass route and (2) the interregional travelers from the Central Valley using the Altamont Pass route.

The CCJPA would also like to encourage MTC to incorporate projects in the Plan that would be financed through Proposition 1B funds, especially Trade Corridor Improvement Funds. These Proposition 1B projects should be seen as incremental improvements that will be part of the vision presented in the Plan.

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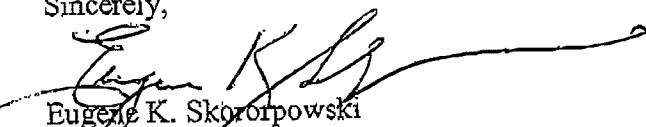
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Mr. Steve Heminger
September 10, 2007
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As such, the CCJPA endorses in principle the work products presented in the Plan. We look forward to working with MTC and other interested parties in the implementation and funding strategies put forth in the Plan.

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Sincerely,



Eugene K. Skoropowski
Managing Director

cc: CCJPA Board of Directors
Dorothy Dugger, BART
Michael Scanlon, Caltrain
Stacey Mortenson, San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission/ACE
Jerry Wilmoth, Union Pacific Railroad
Dan Leavitt, California High Speed Rail Authority
Doug Kimsey, MTC



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FAX

TO: Dan Leavitt

FROM: Gene Skoropowski

CC:

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FAX:

DATE: Sept. 17, 2007

RE: MTC Regional Rail Plan

☐ Urgent

☐ For Review

☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply